

Trumpet Vine, caladium,  
hens'n'chicks,  
papyrus, water lilies,  
sacred lotus, poppies,  
four-o'clocks, hollyhocks,  
zinias, purple, yellow, orange and pink,  
a goldfish gulping at the surface of green  
water, but  
what I really remember  
is the woman who stopped to spank  
her little boy, 8 or 9 good  
solid whacks on his butt,  
he didn't cry once, just stood there and  
took it among the flowers.

#### HEAVEN

Baked potato  
sour cream  
butter  
salt  
pepper  
fresh chives  
&  
all the time  
in the world

— Carl M. Daniels

Prell VA

#### DISABLED VETERAN

Tom and I blow up  
a small bomb out back  
next to the river.  
shaking the neighbors'  
fields of corn.  
The Air Force Lt. Col.  
down the road called  
the state police, the ones  
with the blue silly hats  
that make them look 7' tall.  
"We had a report of gunfire,"  
they say.  
"I was out back plinking  
with my .22," I lied.  
Better to have lived and lied  
than to go with them.